



INFORMATION BULLETIN

**Issue No. 25
September 2015**



CONTENTS PAGE

Item	Page No.
RRF Update Report	3
Communications and Education Update Report	11
Documents Executed by affixing the Common Seal	23
No Glass Campaign – September 2015	24
Plastic Free July - 2015	29

RESOURCE RECOVERY FACILITY UPDATE REPORT	
File No:	WST/13-05
Attachment/s:	Composter construction photos
Date:	25 September 2015
Prepared by:	Director Corporate Services

This report presents a summary of activities that have taken place in the reporting period covering 5 August 2015 to 25 September 2015.

ONGOING MATTERS

Composter Structural Issues

The old composters have been cut up into sections and removed from the site. The new composters have been delivered to site and are in the process of being installed. The project is running on time and it is anticipated that the installation work will be completed within 3 to 4 months of commencement, during which time the RRF will be closed. All waste which would normally be sent to the facility during this period (25,000 – 33,000 tonnes) will be directed to Tamala Park.

The consequence of this to the Mindarie Regional Council (MRC) is that during the 2015/16 financial year the MRC will only send between 67,000 and 75,000 tonnes to the RRF, instead of the normal 100,000 tonnes. This will see a corresponding reduction in the waste diverted from landfill from the normal 51,000 tonnes per annum to between 34,000 and 38,000 tonnes.

OPERATIONAL INFORMATION

Waste Delivery

Waste Delivery Summary for Reporting Period

MONTH	SCHEDULED TONNES	DELIVERED TONNES	DIFFERENCE TONNES
August 2015	8,400	3,197	(5,203)

For the 7th Contract Year, for the period to 31 August 2015, the RRF was 5,521 tonnes behind of schedule as a result of the planned shutdown for the replacement of the composters.

The RRF is operating as anticipated in the Resource Recovery Facility Agreement (RRFA), with average availability of 98% over the past 12 months.

On a monthly basis, Additional Tonnes (those tonnes greater than the monthly scheduled tonnes) only incur the Variable Operating Cost charge, but not the Capital Cost or Fixed Operating Cost charges.

Unavailable Tonnes (those tonnes less than the monthly scheduled tonnes) are not paid for unless:

- Within the Contract Year there is a positive balance of Additional Tonnes, these Additional Tonnes can be off-set against the Unavailable Tonnes. In this case, the off-set Additional Tonnes incur the full gate fee cost less the Variable Operating Cost (which has already been paid on the Additional Tonnes); or

-
- If the RRF Availability for a month is less than 92% of the monthly Scheduled Tonnes and there are no accumulated Additional Tonnes remaining to be off-set, then the MRC is required to pay the Capital Cost on all Unavailable Tonnes up to 92% of the monthly Scheduled Tonnes.

At the end of the Contract Year, if 100,000 tonnes of waste have been delivered to the RRF then the above “overs and unders” system should balance out.

Waste Diversion

Waste Diversion for the past six months (March 2015 to August 2015) has dropped to 37.7% with a Waste Diversion Target of 51.3%. In August, the diversion was actually negative as a result of there being no deliveries to the RRF, but Tamala Park continued to receive residues as the plant was emptied for the maintenance period. This anomaly will reverse once the composter repairs have been completed and the system is reprimed for commissioning.

Operational Activities

BioVision has notified the MRC that the coarse heavy fraction does not consistently pass the requirements to be classified as a Class II waste stream. The MRC is currently in discussions with the Department of Environment Regulation as to how to proceed with this waste stream going forward.

During the planned shutdown to replacement the composters, which commenced 18 August 2015, BioVision is conducting various maintenance and repair activities to make best use of the shutdown period.

The cost per tonne of waste processed has increased dramatically for August which reflects the fact that the MRC continues to 92% of the capital cost of the facility while there is limited or no production during the shutdown. The MRC retrieves this value through the accrued tonnes which will be processed at the end of the contract.

Community Complaints

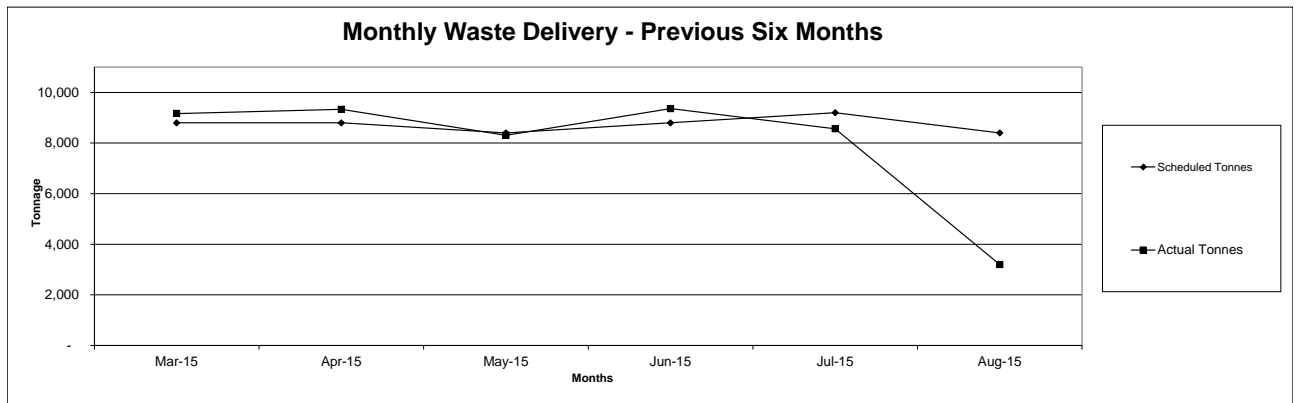
BioVision last met with its community stakeholder group on 23 May 2014 and no serious issues were raised.

COMMUNITY COMPLAINTS SUMMARY FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD

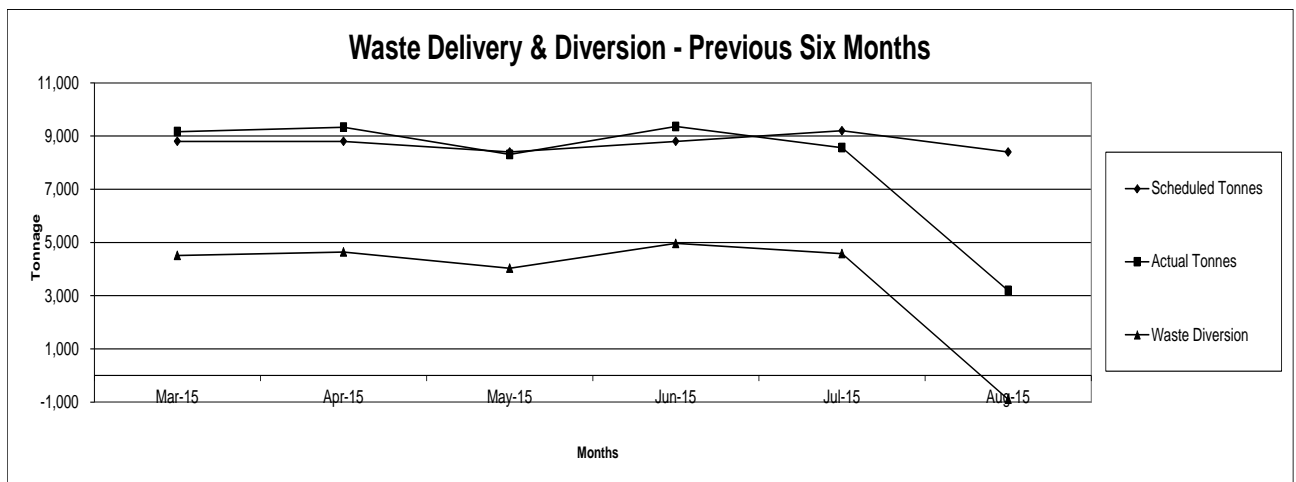
Date	Complaint	From	Outcome
Nil	No complaints have been received	Nil	Nil

The graphs below provide data up to **31 August 2015**.

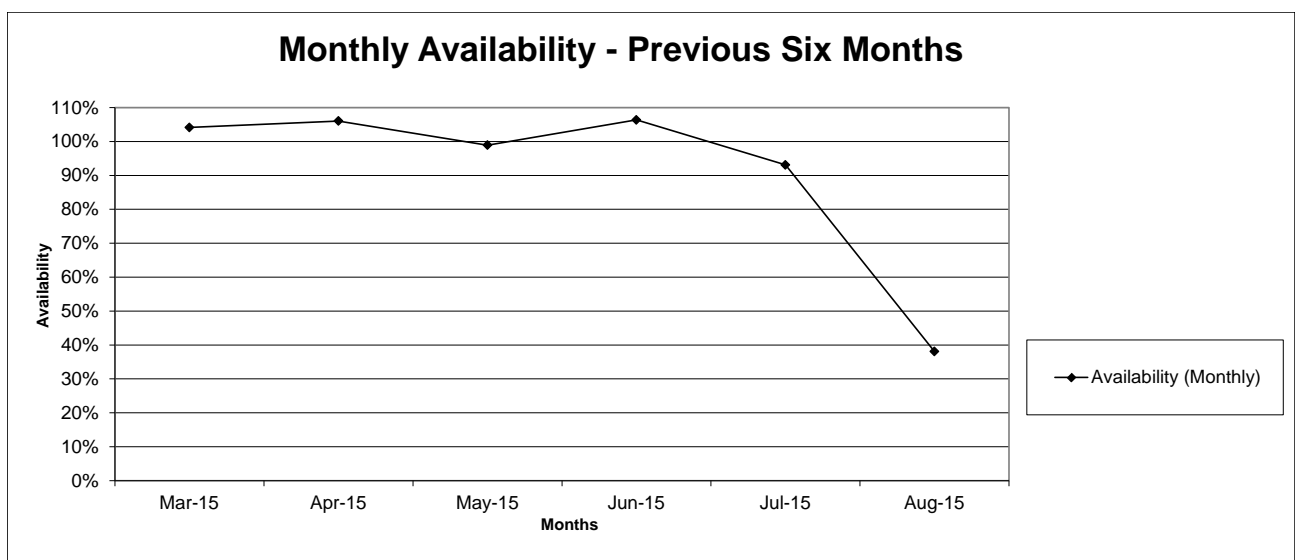
Graph No. 1 – Monthly Waste Delivery – Previous Six Months

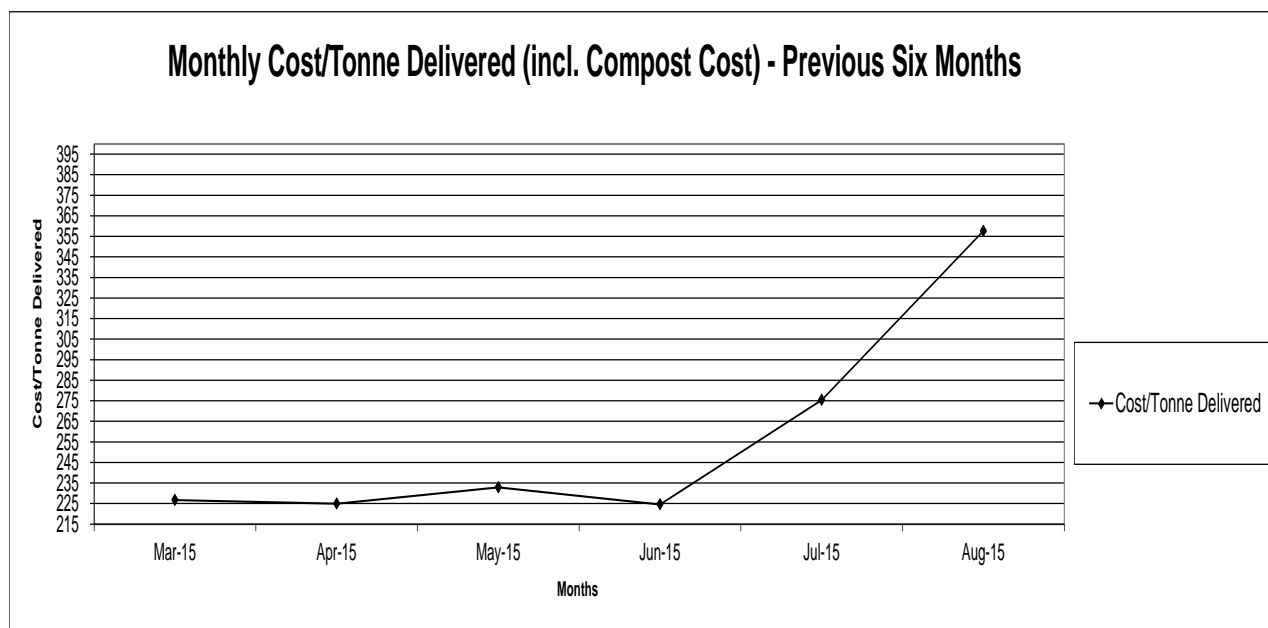
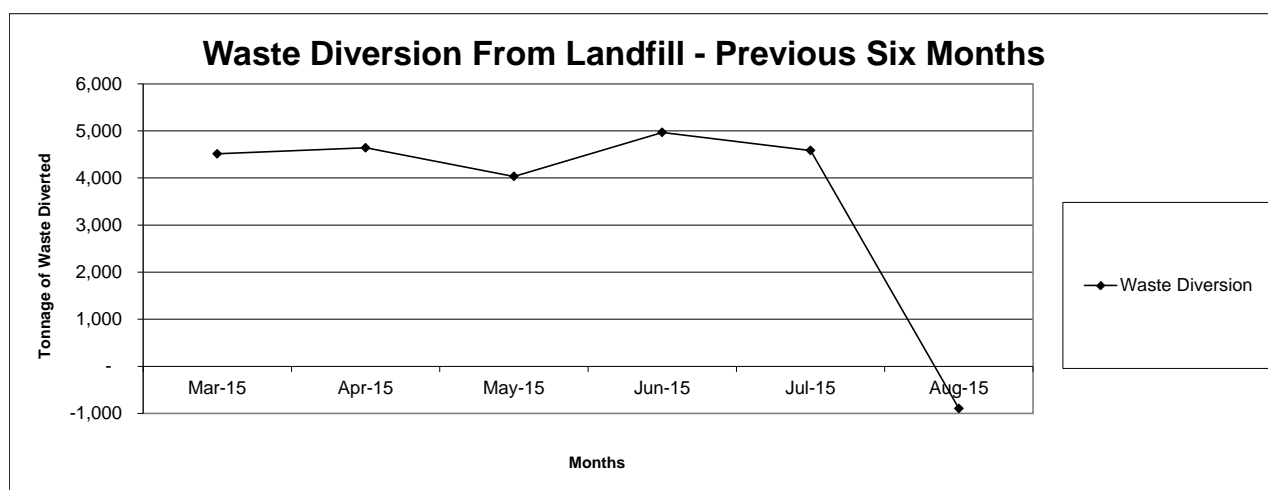


Graph No. 2 – Waste Delivery & Diversion – Previous Six Months



Graph No. 3 – Monthly Availability – Previous Six Months



Graph No. 4 – Monthly Cost/tonne Delivered (incl. Compost Cost) – Previous Six Months**Graph No. 5 – Waste Diversion from Landfill – Previous Six Months**

Performance Indicators

KPI's as per the RRFA are as follows:

Table No. 1 – KPI Summary (to 31 August 2015)

KPI	Target	Previous 6 Months	August		
Availability*	95%	91%	38%		
Environmental Standard - Number of Breaches	0	0	0		
Waste Diversion	51.3%	37.7%	-28.0%		
Quality of Compost - Number of Breaches**	0	0	0		
Quantity of Recyclable Packaging ***	0.80%	n/a	1.35%		
Health and Safety - Number of LTI's	0	0	0		
Community Acceptance - Number of Complaints ****	0	0	0		
Project Culture - PAG Chairperson Score	100	100	100		

* The Target Availability during the Initial Operating Period is to achieve an Availability of greater than 95% over a six-month period.

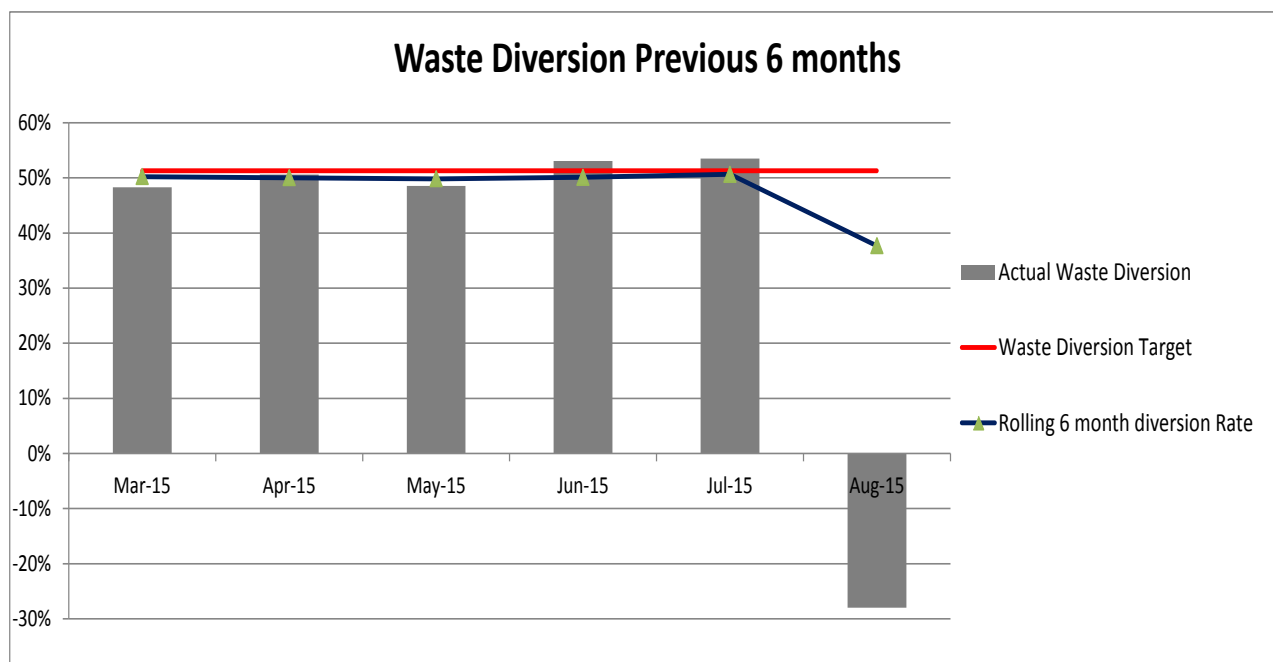
** The compost standard within the RRFA was amended by the revisions to the RRFA approved by Council at its meeting of 6 December 2012 and signed under common seal in May 2013.

*** Financial impacts of the KPI were removed by the revisions to the RRFA approved by Council at its meeting of 6 December 2012 and signed under common seal in May 2013. Ferrous diversion has recommenced.

**** Numerous complaints relating to a single event are treated as a single complaint. Biofilter odour is not registered as a complaint as this is seen as a normal operating odour condition.

Waste Diversion

The average waste diversion for the past six months (March 2015 to August 2015) has been 37.7%.



Project Advisory Group (PAG) as at 25 September 2015

MRC Representatives:

Cr Dot Newton JP
 Brian Callander (CEO)
 Gunther Hoppe
 Cr Janet Davidson OAM JP (Deputy)

BioVision Representatives:

Craig Barker
 Emmanuel Vivant
 Nial Stock
 Alan Turner (Alternate)

Chairperson:

Ian Watkins

The PAG last met on 19 August 2015.

Items dealt with by the group included:

- Contract Variations (including the maintenance cost discussions)
- Composter Structural Issues
- BioVision Monthly Report/Update
- Compost Marketing and Compost Quality
- Residue management
- Insurance

Copies of the meeting minutes are distributed to the Strategic Working Group members and all MRC Councillors following the meetings.

Community Engagement

The MRC community engagement program continues to be managed via the Community Engagement and Advisory Group (CEAG).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Operational Expenditure

The Project Operational Summary below sets out the 2015/16 facility operating budget against which operational costs are tracked throughout the year. The variance over budget is as a result of the additional tonnes put through the facility during the year.

Project Operational Costs Summary for 2015/16 Financial Year – for the period ended 31 August 2015

Mindarie Regional Council OPERATING STATEMENT For the month ended 31 August 2015

Description	Adopted Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	\$ Variance	% Variance
Resource Recovery Facility					
Operating Expenditure					
Employee Costs					
Salaries	-	-	-	-	
Allowances	-	-	-	-	
Workers Compensation Premium	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Consultants and Contract Labour					
Consultancy	35,000	-	-	-	
Contract Labour External	-	-	-	-	
	35,000	-	-	-	
Office Expenses					
Cleaning of Buildings	18,000	3,000	2,049	(951)	(31.71%)
	18,000	3,000	2,049	(951)	(31.71%)
Information System Expenses					
Computer System Maintenance	28,000	4,667	5,186	519	11.12%
	28,000	4,667	5,186	519	11.12%
Building Maintenance					
Building Maintenance	21,500	667	-	(667)	(100.00%)
Building Security	7,000	1,167	158	(1,009)	(86.49%)
	28,500	1,833	158	(1,676)	(91.40%)
RRF Operation Expenses					
Fencing and Gate Maintenance	15,000	-	3,637	3,637	
Road Maintenance	-	-	-	-	
Bores and Pipework	10,500	-	-	-	
Vehicle Wash Facility Operations	-	-	-	-	
Landscaping and Gardens	29,000	-	4,172	4,172	
Compost Disposal	306,225	51,038	71,508	20,471	40.11%
Contractor's Fees	20,182,870	3,611,672	3,230,317	(381,356)	(10.56%)
	20,543,595	3,662,710	3,309,634	(353,076)	(9.64%)
Utilities					
Electricity	10,000	1,667	-	(1,667)	(100.00%)
Rates	34,000	5,667	4,100	(1,567)	(27.65%)
	44,000	7,333	4,100	(3,234)	(44.09%)
Insurance					
Municipal Property Insurance	3,100	517	-	(517)	(100.00%)
Public Liability Insurance	5,545	924	-	(924)	(100.00%)
	8,645	1,441	-	(1,441)	(100.00%)
Cost of Borrowings					
Interest on Loans	216,600	36,100	28,953	(7,147)	(19.80%)
Loan Expenses	8,000	1,333	300	(1,033)	(77.50%)
	224,600	37,433	29,253	(8,180)	(21.85%)
Amortisations					
Amortisation Pre-operating Costs	104,700	17,450	17,450	-	0.00%
Amortisation Costs	435,500	72,583	72,583	-	0.00%
	540,200	90,033	90,033	-	0.00%
Depreciation					
Depreciation on Infrastructure	4,100	683	4,718	4,035	590.42%
	4,100	683	4,718	4,035	590.42%
Total Operating Expenditure	21,474,640	3,809,134	3,445,130	(364,004)	(9.56%)
Net Total	(21,474,640)	(3,809,134)	(3,445,130)	364,004	(9.56%)

COMPOSTER CONSTRUCTION PHOTOS



COMMUNICATIONS AND EDUCATION REPORT	
File No:	WST/178-02
Attachment(s):	Nil
Date:	25 September 2015
Responsible Officer:	Education Manager

Communication and Education Report – July/August 2015

The MRC's Communications and Education team's main focus is on community engagement within the region. The main objectives are to:

- improve community awareness and understanding of waste issues
- encourage a reduce, reuse, recycle and dispose wisely ethos and behaviours associated with this
- promote MRC's vision of Winning Back Waste and encourage engagement on many levels to divert waste from landfill.

This is largely done through the provision of facility tours, visits to schools and community groups to deliver workshops and talks, displays at community fairs and events and the Earth Carer community outreach program.

The Team works closely with:

- the Member Councils through the Waste Education Strategic Steering Group (WESSG) to support the councils
- the State Waste Educators Working Groups (WEWG/WENG) which include representatives from the other Regional Councils, Local Governments, WALGA, Waste Wise Schools, KABWA, Waste Authority and a variety of other members (government/community/business) interested in waste issues.

These groups assist in developing and delivering waste messages to the community and with support for various waste projects with the view to improve waste minimisation and diversion from landfill.

This report will look to summarise the education activity for the months of July/August 2015.

Community Engagement

Tours

The tours of the MRC facilities (Tamala Park and RRF) are run on request Monday to Saturday and are popular with people of all age groups and from all walks of life. The duration of each tour ranges from one to three hours depending on the requirement of the group attending.

All the feedback given about these tours report a high level of participant satisfaction with them being described as very informative. The tours don't just point out operational aspects of the site but discuss the 'story of waste', engaging people in how the Waste Hierarchy works and discuss behaviours that create the best outcomes. People are continually amazed at how a 'trip to the tip' can be such an eye opener and very enjoyable.

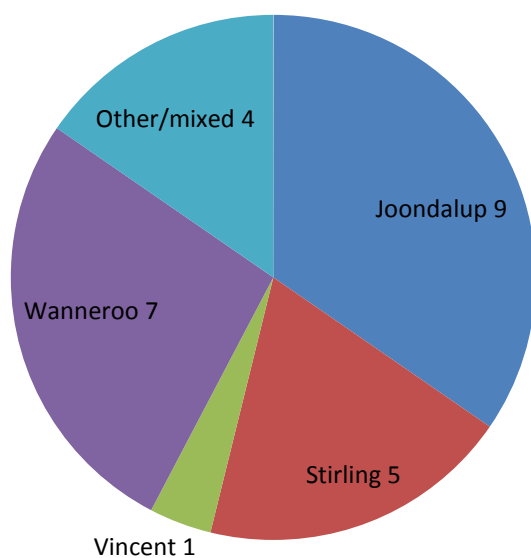
During the July/August 26 tours took place with 624 people visiting Tamala Park and/or the Resource Recovery Facility (RRF).

TOURS BY COUNCIL	
	Number
Cambridge	0
Joondalup	9
Perth	0
Stirling	5
Victoria Park	0
Vincent	1
Wanneroo	7
Other/mixed*	4
TOTAL	26

* Includes 1 mixed residents tour, 1 MRC tours, and 2 tour groups from outside the region.

Total no of people on tour = 624

Tours by Council (July-August 2015)



These tours were represented by the following groups:

**TOURS BY
GROUP**

	Number
Schools	13
Businesses	2
Community	4
Out of School	7
Tertiary	0
TOTAL	26

Tamala Park remains the preferred destination with most of the tours visiting the landfill. Only one group went to the RRF. Because it was anticipated that the RRF would be closed for repairs during this time bookings for RRF tours were not made.

The Roaming Recycler Waste Education Display

The July/August period tends to be a quiet time of year for events and this is reflected by the MRC attending only 7 events throughout the region during that time.

ROAMING RECYCLER EVENTS	
	No Days Out
Cambridge	0
Joondalup	0
Perth	2
Stirling	1
Victoria Park	1
Vincent	0.5
Wanneroo	3.5
Other	0
TOTAL	8

Total no of events = 7

The events being: Science Expo at Ashdale Secondary College, Science Week at Perth Cultural Centre, NAIDOC event at Mirrabooka, Tree Planting event with the Vic Park Collective and the Alkimos Smart Living event.

Earth Carers

MRC Earth Carers continue to meet and engage with the community. A number of Earth carers link in with Community Garden groups, Transition Towns and other groups of like minded people. These provide very fertile grounds for information exchange and promoting waste wise messages.

An Earth Carers training course was held in August with 5 sessions being held over a 3 week period. At its conclusion 21 enthusiastic and waste wise people graduated. Again the course started at the City of Wanneroo's Ashby Depot where the participants were introduced to the vehicles that they see driving around collecting their rubbish.

'Earth Carers North' Facebook page continues to grow, now with over 365 likes, with a weekly reach of between 300 and 2,000 people and over 70 regular contributors/engaged. This has proved a great way to enable the Earth Carers to stay connected and discuss issues of interest.

An Advanced Earth Carers course commenced in July with 12 Earth Carers participating. These are Earth Carers who have been with us for a while and want to learn more. They revise their training and extend their knowledge with the course culminating in the completion of a waste related project, of which they are all working on now.

Talks and Visits

Talks and visits to schools and community groups remains a focus of the MRC education team. The topics of these talks and visits vary according to the group but the sessions mainly focus on three main areas:

- Organics – composting and worm farming
- The bin system – what goes in what bin
- Waste Hierarchy – reduce, reuse, recycle and dispose wisely.

The duration of the sessions range from an hour through to a full day and, in the case of schools, may be for single classes or for the whole school.

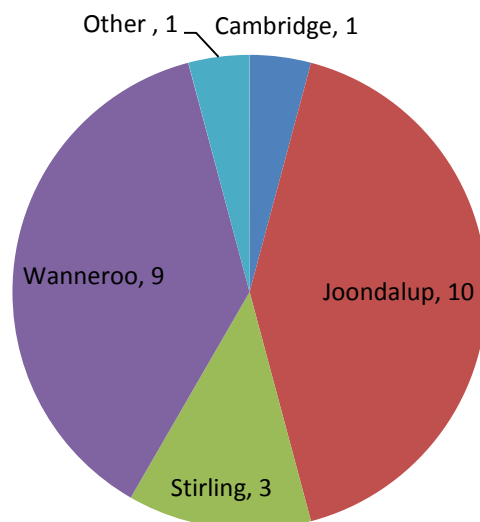
During the July/August period 26 visits/talks were conducted with the majority being to schools and childcare centres.

VISITS/TALKS	
	Number
Cambridge	1
Joondalup	10
Perth	2
Stirling	3
Victoria Park	0
Vincent	0
Wanneroo	9
Other	1
TOTAL	26

TYPES OF TALKS	
	Number
Waste & recycling	5
Composting, worms & gardens	16
Nude Your Food	3
Battery assembly	1
Other	1
TOTAL	26

SCH/DAY CARE VISITS	
	Number
Cambridge	1
Joondalup	10
Perth	0
Stirling	3
Victoria Park	0
Vincent	0
Wanneroo	9
Other	1
TOTAL	24

Visits by Council (July-August 2015)

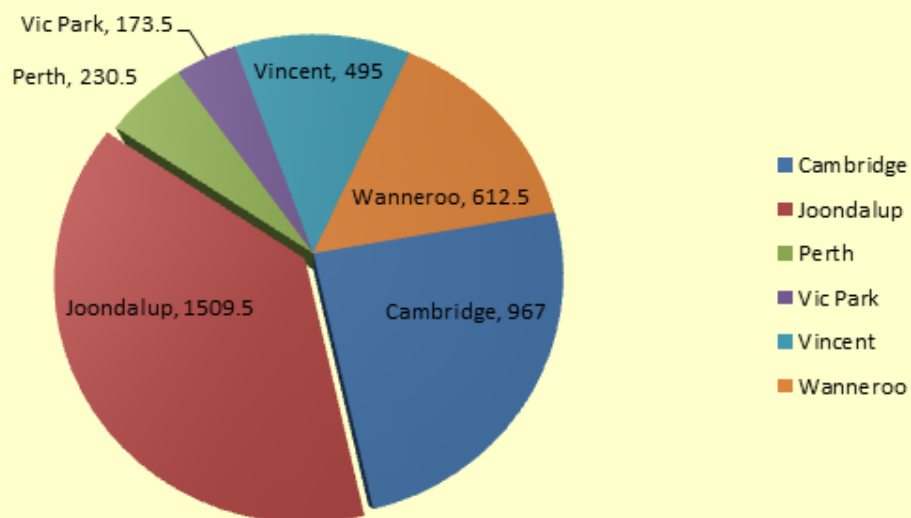


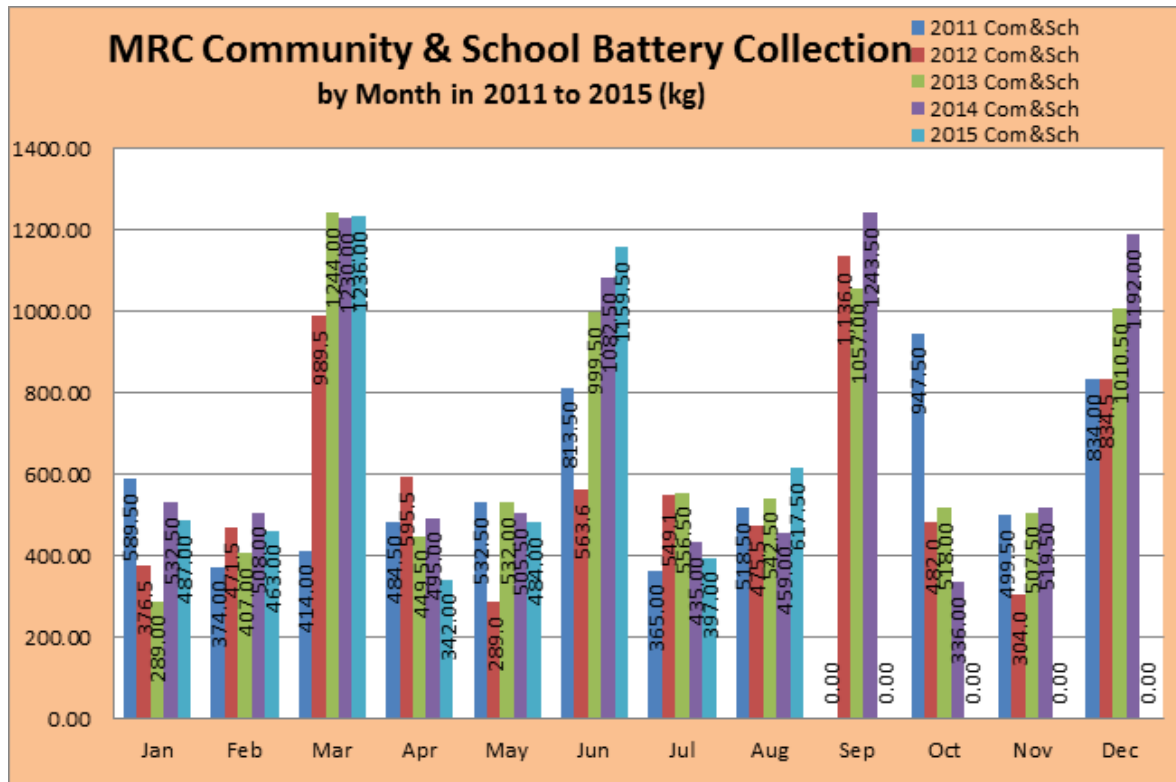
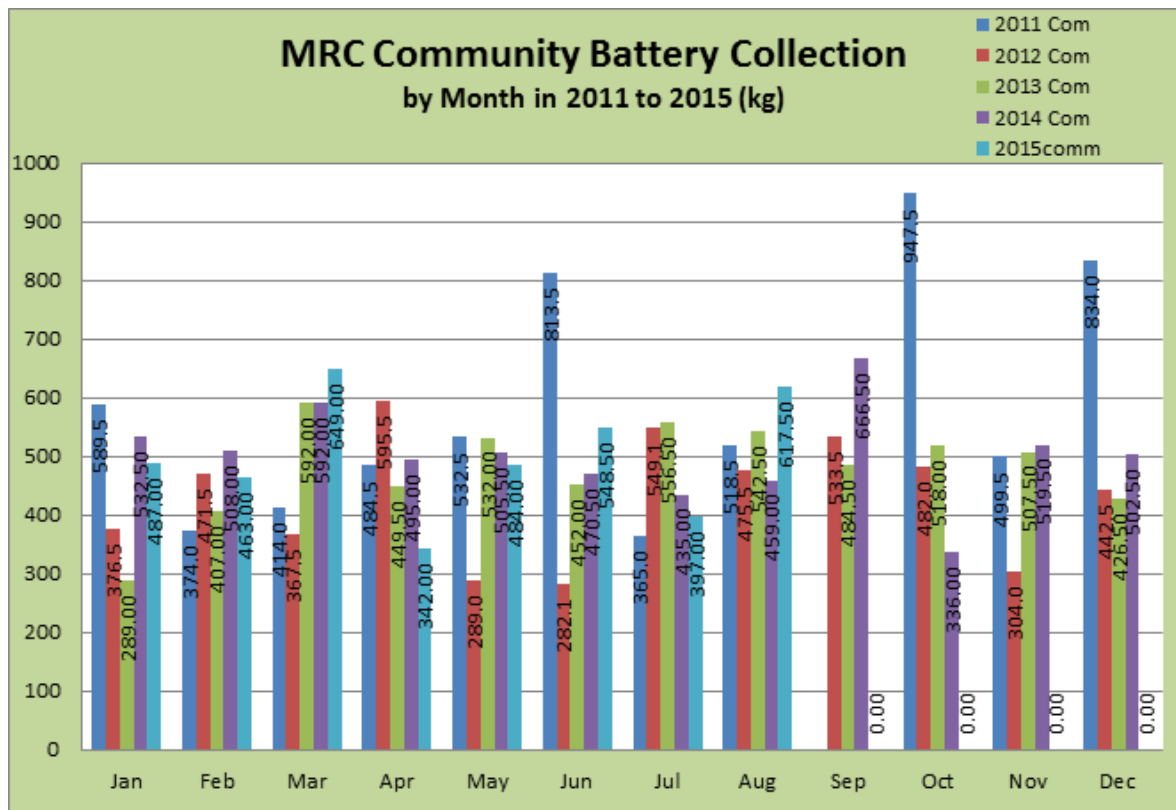
Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Dispose Wisely

Battery Program

Batteries from school and community bins continued to be collected in large numbers. Importantly most of these batteries previously would have gone into the household green top wheelie-bin then to the RRF and the chemicals contained within ultimately into the compost. However large quantities of batteries are bought and disposed of and although the MRC is collecting and recycling tonnes of batteries it is only the tip of the iceberg.

Batteries Collected from Community Collection Bins by Council January 2015 - August 2015 (Total No = 3988 kg)





MRC School Battery Program - League						
Table	Total Batteries collected by					
Schools (kgs), Term 1 and 2, 2015						
Rank	Place	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Grand Total
1	Sorrento Primary School	64	82			146
2	Duncraig Primary School	33	47			80
3	Mullaloo Beach Primary School	31	32			63
4	Halidon Primary School	16	37			53
5	Greenwood Primary School	20	32			52
6	Hillarys Primary School	32	11			43
7	Carramar Primary School	13	29			42
8	Bold Park Community School	32	7			39
9	St Marks Anglican Community School	22	11			33
10	Ashdale Primary School	11	13			24

E-Waste

The MRC has an e-waste contract that covers all of its member councils enabling free recycling of computers, TVs and other peripheral items that can be plugged into these devices. In addition to providing a permanent drop off site at Tamala Park this contract has enabled member councils to review the way they handle e-waste, for example, the City of Joondalup has banned e-waste from its verge collections through holding regular e-waste collection days throughout the year.

August saw both City of Joondalup and Town of Cambridge hold a collection event on the same weekend, providing drop off opportunities in both north and south of the region. Event weekends like this will be explored further to gain maximum collection from Region wide promotion.

In recent times other service providers have either withdrawn their service or reduced the tonnages collected from councils for recycling, resulting in e-waste either being landfilled or councils having to pay for recycling themselves. The MRC and its member councils through its agreement with Infoactive have continued to have its e-waste picked up and recycled at no cost.

WESSG

Waste Education Strategic Steering Group (WESSG) meetings are held at the end of each month. These continue to be an important forum for exchanging ideas and keeping everyone updated on happenings associated with waste within the Member Councils.

The importance of **Regional messaging** remains on the agenda as does the groups role in dealing with regional waste issues. Many events and activities within the Region occur regularly with a Regional calendar being developed to help streamline communications, messaging and coordination between both the MRC and the Member Councils and the Member Councils themselves. This to share the load and get best value for the Region, including looking at ways to improve waste diversion figures for the Region.

The **Waste Diversion Report Card** continues to be produced with quarterly information on how the MRC as a Region is tracking with regard to overall waste diversion. The report includes waste and recycling figures from each of the member councils. Member Councils are encouraged to report on activities where waste is diverted from landfill i.e. verge mattress and steel collections to ensure the diversion figures are as accurate as possible.

Whilst some councils are performing well others for a variety of reasons are not. In the April – June 2015 period the MRC as a Region was looking at a waste diversion figure of about 32% this up from the same period's figure of 27% in 2014. Not all member councils provided their figures for this quarter so the diversion figure would be slightly higher. These figures indicate an improvement but still a lot of work needing to be done if Waste Authority targets are to be met. However with the introduction of the City of Stirling's 3-bin system it is hoped that these figures will improve considerably.

The **RRF issues** have remained in focus.

This has included discussing the impact on waste deliveries during the composter replacement during August to November 2015 and a communications plan to keep the public informed of this intended activity. The RRF shutdown campaign will focus on reducing contamination in the bins with the view to encourage the public to recycle and divert waste from the RRF bound green top bin, which during this time will be going to Tamala Park landfill.



The MRC have negotiated to have piece of the replaced composter for placement at the Visitors Centre. This to give visitors a close up view of the size of the composters which they currently only see from a distance. This composter piece along with a screen segment from the also being replaced trommel unit will offer greater visual support in explaining the process.



The **'No glass' campaign**, to create behavioural change by residents to reduce the glass component in the compost, has been extensively discussed. The project uses a sticker to be placed on bins and a flyer to explain why glass in the green lidded bin is an issue. A final design for both the sticker and flyer has been made. Removing the glass from the green top bin has many potential benefits. Funding for the project had been sort from Council through the 2014/2015 and 2015/2016 Budget process and from the Waste Authority.

Plastic Free July took place. This included a library display being set up in libraries throughout the region, community workshops (in Wanneroo, Stirling and Cambridge) and a number of media releases.



The **Garage Sale Trail** is a community engagement program with a waste theme. Its main aim is to raise awareness of the need to reuse and not just discard, with a focus on bulk verge collections. With Waste Authority backing most MRC member councils are looking to be involved this year. This year it is held on Saturday 24th October across Australia.

This event has led to discussions on garage sales in general, maybe to produce a “how to successfully hold a garage sale” guide to promote garage sales over the full year. This due to the large number of garage sales held throughout the Region each weekend.

WEWG


WMAA-WA’s Waste Education Working Group, in which MRC is involved, meets every month discussing wider waste issues and providing networking opportunities. The group provides MRC with close links to other regional council education staff, Waste Wise Schools and Keep Australia Beautiful staff and programs, Waste Authority and WALGA programs. The focus of the group during this period has been the 2015 Perth Royal Show and the preparations and development of waste educators site there, using the Waste Authority banner of WA...Too good to waste.

Winning Back Waste


Communications

During the July/August period:

- Flyer to advertise new Gate Fee for 2015/2016



Tamala Park—New Fees



The Mindarie Regional Council’s operational costs have remained fixed for the last four years with fluctuations in the gate fee having only been caused by the Carbon Price and rises in the State Government Landfill levy.

However a small fee increase will occur as of **Monday July 6th 2015** to cover rises in operational costs. This rise is largely inflationary but is partially caused through increased resource recovery and recycling activity and due to reduced tonnage being landfilled.

2015	→	2015/2016
\$188	→	\$195/tonne
\$15	→	\$16 minimum entry

A full list of Fees and Charges can be found on the MRC website: www.mrc.wa.gov.au

FREE drop off for householders will continue at the Recycling Centre for recyclables, good condition second hand items and household hazardous waste (see website for more details).

Visit our website: www.mrc.wa.gov.au

- Recycling feature in the Kids in Perth Parents Paper

Not everything that can be recycled will be recycled in your yellow top recycling bin.

We have all become great recyclers, priding ourselves on filling our recycling bins every collection day. Unfortunately some of the items we have so carefully placed in the recycling bin end up in landfill. Items like clothing, toys, furniture, batteries, computers, TVs, tools and other household goods can often be reused or recycled but if placed in the yellow topped recycling bin they will go to landfill.



The reason is that the facilities that take this material are designed to separate only certain items, these items being the ones that your council lists in the recycling guide. Items like glass jars and bottles, paper and cardboard, aluminium and steel cans and plastic containers.

It is also important that these items are placed in the bin loose, not tied up in a plastic bag or squashed up in a box, allowing them to be easily separated and sorted.

For more information visit www.mrc.wa.gov.au

Website

Please place the following information on your website to provide more detailed information of the RRF shutdown. MRC will be placing this information on its website.

WASTE PROCESSING FACILITY CLOSING FOR REPAIRS

The Mindarie Regional Council's (MRC) Resource Recovery Facility (RRF) in Neerabup will be temporarily closed later this year to undergo repairs and maintenance, specifically to replace the composters that developed cracks early after commissioning.

The RRF accepts 100,000 tonnes of general household waste per year from the MRC's member councils (Cities of, Joondalup, Perth, Stirling, Vincent and Wanneroo and the Towns of Cambridge and Victoria Park) and extracts the organic component (e.g. food waste, garden waste and paper products) from the waste converting it to a composted soil conditioner. The RRF diverts from landfill over 50% of the waste it receives and has contributed significantly to the waste diversion rates achieved by the MRC's member councils, in particular the Cities of Joondalup and Wanneroo who are the principal users of the facility.

BioVision 2020 Pty Ltd built own and operate the Resource Recovery Facility in Neerabup for the Mindarie Regional Council. The company SUEZ environnement (formerly SITA Australia) is a shareholder in BioVision 2020 and is contracted to manage the day to day operations of the facility.

The RRF opened in 2009, with structural cracks in the composting vessels developing early in proceedings. These cracks were temporarily repaired with minimal interference to the normal operations of the RRF. However, to avoid the possibility of a future composter failure, it has been decided to replace the composters to see the RRF through until the end of its operational life.

The two composters, each 65m long with a diameter of 4.5m and weighing 300 tonnes, are a key part of the facility. The composters lie horizontally and slowly rotate to break down the waste and start the maturation process of the compost.

The composters and associated gearing have been redesigned to both improve their durability and provide operational efficiencies. The new composters are currently being fabricated and it is expected that the composters will be installed late August/early September 2015, closing the RRF for a period of 3 to 4 months. During this time, the plant will undergo both scheduled and additional maintenance to minimise future lost production time. Whilst the RRF is closed the waste will be diverted to the Tamala Park landfill site.

Investigations have been undertaken to see if the waste normally sent to the RRF could be diverted during the shutdown to similar type composting facilities, however this was found to be both prohibitively expensive and impractical. Contractual negotiations however will see the lost processing of tonnes caused by the RRF shutdown, being recovered at the end of the contract period. This effectively results in no loss in waste processed and materials recovered for the MRC and its member councils over the contract period.

Residents should use their bins as usual and the collection of both bins (recycling and general waste) and bulk verge waste will not change. No additional cost to the member councils or their ratepayers will result due to the shutdown.

DOCUMENTS EXECUTED BY AFFIXING THE COMMON SEAL	
File No:	GOV/38
Appendix(s):	Nil
Date:	25 September 2015
Responsible Officer:	Chief Executive Officer

During the period 1 October 2014 and 25 September 2015, one (1) document was executed by affixing the Common Seal. A summary is provided below:

Date	Document	Signed/Sealed
09/09/2015	Deed of Licence & Indemnity for Construction Works – BioVision and MRC	Sealed and signed by Chair and CEO

If further information is required on the documents signed under common seal please contact the Chief Executive Officer, Brian Callander on 9306 6302.

NO GLASS CAMPAIGN – SEPTEMBER 2015	
File No:	WST/208
Attachment(s):	Nil
Date:	25September 2015
Responsible Officer:	Education Manager

No Glass Campaign Update – September 2015

The “No Glass” campaign is a project designed to reduce the glass fraction found in the soil conditioner being produced by the Resource Recovery Facility (RRF) as a result of glass being placed in the green top general waste bins.

The project will include the production and application of stickers to the general household waste bins within the MRC region, in particular those that get taken to the RRF for processing into compost, with an accompanying education campaign. The Cities of Joondalup, Wanneroo and Vincent and the Town of Victoria Park are involved in this initial campaign with the Cities of Perth and Stirling and the Town of Cambridge indicating an interest in using the materials at a later date.

The project is intended to deliver immediate impact behavioural change by informing residents not to place glass in the green top bin and educating them as to the reasons why.

The design brief was for the message to be big, bold and simple...an in your face message. The sticker was to have one message with a graphical element to portray the message as well.

The campaign was originally planned to coincide with the closure of the RRF as it underwent repairs but has been delayed primarily due to the Waste Authority requiring greater involvement in the design elements, a condition of them agreeing to part fund the campaign. As a result an improved sticker design and accompanying DL flyer were produced.

MRC’s Waste Education Strategic Steering Committee (WESSG) has been continually consulted and updated on progress and provided input into the final design and messaging.

The stickers and flyers are currently being printed.

A project manager/support person is being employed on a short term contract to oversee the roll out of the campaign.

Bin audits are being organised with in the participating councils to gauge current glass contamination in the bins with follow up audits to take place during and after the campaign to monitor the successfulness of the campaign.

Advertisements are being designed to be inserted into the local Community Newspapers at the time of the roll out and during the campaign supporting the sticker message.

Banners are also being designed and produced to be used at community events to draw attention to the campaign.

The campaign is to be launched in October with stickers placed on bins and flyers distributed by November 2015, to coincide with the timing of the RRF coming back online after its composter repairs.

A summer follow up campaign will take place to remind people during the festive and holiday season not to place excess bottles and glass in general in their general waste bin

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Each year 100,000 tonnes of general household waste from the MRC's member councils goes to the RRF in Neerabup where it is turned into a soil conditioner. A significant amount of glass is placed in the general waste stream (green top bin) which is taken to the RRF.

The bulk of this glass is screened out of the process by the RRF and returns to landfill as a residue. A smaller portion of this glass finds its way through to the soil enhancer produced by the RRF, reducing the value and marketability of the product.

There are likely to be a number of benefits to member councils if this glass can be shifted out of the green top bin into the yellow top recycling bin including:

- improved quality of soil conditioner, increasing its value, marketability and potential uses,
- reduced processing costs (green top bin waste is more expensive to process than yellow top bin waste), and
- increased RRF diversion rate (less glass to landfill as a residue).

Each of the above has the potential to translate into direct savings for member councils.

To date, the education to the community with regard to the green top bin has been largely centred around:

- placing organics in this bin,
- keeping Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) out of this bin,
- that a beneficial product, a soil conditioner, is being produced, and
- waste is being diverted from landfill.

Standard recycling campaigns as to what goes into the yellow top bin have also taken place with this bin being seen as the principal place of source separation.

Residents have never been specifically told not to put glass in the green top bin and have in fact even been told to put broken glass in it. This mixed messaging and lack of clear direction, as well as over flow glass 'contamination' from the yellow top bin, is resulting in the contamination we are experiencing in the green top bin.

The quality of the compost produced by the RRF is of a high standard, except that it has too high a fraction of glass, which is devaluing the product and limiting its use.

The current Australian Composting Standards require there to be <0.5% dry matter of particle contaminants of glass, metal and hard plastics. The RRF compost has tested at over 1.0% however it has been as low as 0.58%.

It is believed that the project being proposed, advising residents not to put glass in their general waste bin, would result in a fast and significant change in people's behaviour simply because they have never been told this before.

A drop in the glass fraction found in the compost from the RRF would see the compost produced being far more usable and marketable, making it even more of a good news story than it currently is. This in turn would enable us to promote the benefits of

composting in a broader sense to the community from which other campaigns can be leveraged.



NO GLASS in this bin

What you **CAN**
place in your
general waste bin

Nappies and
doggie bags
General
household waste
Kitchen waste
Garden waste
(leaves, grass and
tree clippings)



You **CAN** place
GLASS in your
recycling bin

Plastic bottles
and containers
Paper and
cardboard
Glass bottles and jars
(including broken ones)
Steel and
aluminium cans
Milk and
juice cartons



NOT in either bin: batteries, light globes, fluoros,
paint, pesticides, herbicides, combustible liquids or
other dangerous chemicals. Contact your council for
disposal details.

Keep glass out of the compost

Your green top bin waste is taken to the Resource Recovery Facility in Neerabup where we separate the organic waste (kitchen scraps, paper, lawn clippings, leaves, prunings etc.) to make compost.

If there's glass in this bin, it can contaminate the compost. This is why it's really important to keep glass out of this bin.



What do you do with glass?

-  Glass bottles and jars (including broken ones) - put in your recycling bin.
-  Plates, cups, mugs – put ceramics in your recycling bin
-  Light globes, CFLs and fluoro tubes – take to a Household Hazardous Waste collection site
-  TVs and computer monitors – take to your e-waste recycler
-  Broken sheet glass (window or doors) - take to your nearest landfill transfer station

And, please don't put glass out for bulk verge collection!

You can take all GLASS items to

Tamala Park Waste Facility
1700 Marmion Avenue,
TAMALA PARK

Balcatta Recycling and
Transfer Station
Balcatta Rd, BALCATT

For more information contact us
on 9306 6303 or see our website
www.mrc.wa.gov.au



Participating councils:



CITY OF VINCENT



PLASTIC FREE JULY – 2015	
File No:	WST/178-02
Attachment(s):	Nil
Date:	25 September 2015
Responsible Officer:	Education Manager

Plastic Free July – 2015

Started in Perth in 2011, by WMRC Earth Carers, the Plastic Free July challenge has since spread to countries all around the world. The Mindarie Regional Council has supported Plastic Free July since day one and encourages everyone to join the challenge and get ideas on how to reduce and reuse to live plastic-free.

Plastic Free July is an annual campaign to create an awareness of the environmental problems associated with plastics, in particular single use plastic products. Plastic bags, plastic drinking straws, plastic wrap, disposable plastic plates and cups are just some of the many products we use, just once and throw away...what a waste. Plastic Free July aims to encourage us to look at the way we consume and maybe see where we can reduce our consumption of single-use plastics. The challenge can be as individuals, families or work place groups, it all creates an interesting and fun month of awareness. But it is not just in July with it being promoted well before and its influence is seen well after, in some cases it has been the catalyst of permanent change to people's lives.

The success of Plastic Free July is that it is easy to get involved and to the extent that you want to be involved. It is a good cause and appealing on many different levels – waste reduction, financial, environmental, animal welfare, wasted resources to landfill. It also promotes the idea that it's not just about recycling, waste is bigger than that. It is an avoid/reduce message that encourages multi-use rather than single use and can be a launching pad to tackling other problem wastes.

In 2015 35,000 registrations of individuals and businesses from all over the world were made. This includes over 100 schools and 15 local governments. There were over 600 registrations in Western Australia during July with 133 giving their postcode from within the MRC region. The number participating, though, was undoubtedly considerably more.

MRC widely promoted the event on:

- Website with links to the Plastic Free July website with its resources, ideas and social media groups.
- World Environment Day in West Australian
- July edition of Kids in Perth the parents paper
- Earth Carer newsletter and widely through the Earth Carer network
- Earth Carers North Facebook page
- Member councils were also encouraged to promote through their newsletters, websites, Facebook, Community News council pages etc.



Some small targeted events took place within the Region that included talks, demonstrations and screening of movies on the themes of reducing single use plastic. The behaviour change in this area is slow and difficult as single use plastic is such a convenient part of our lives. Although plastic is not a huge percentage of our waste stream, the consequences of escaped plastic into the environment can be costly to both the environment and the local governments in clean up and litter control.



The local library display spent a week at each of the following libraries: City of Joondalup, Inglewood, Whitfords, Town of Vic Park, Town of Cambridge, City of Wanneroo, Karrinyup and Clarkson. Over PFJ 200 flyers were taken from the display.

The MRC also sees this as an all year promotion of the plastic free message and includes activities as part of its wider education efforts. These include:

- Waste Wise Schools, Message in a Bottle, a curriculum unit for lower secondary students looking at the issues associated with single use plastic water bottles. MRC attended the launch this year and has promoted this into local secondary schools.
- Nude your Food, highlighting plastic packaging, plastic lunch wrap, is one of the options offered when visiting schools.
- Terracycle – a new program targeting bathroom waste like toothpaste tubes, toothbrushes, shampoo bottles, soap pump packs, blister packs containing toothbrushes etc. These items have previously being an ignored waste stream and almost all going to landfill.

The 2015 Tamala Park Open Day had a display encouraging people to avoid single use plastic products.



This same display was then used to promote the message to all MRC staff with the display set up in staff/crib rooms and the message promoted through the staff newsletters, at Toolbox meetings and through staff pledges (particularly not to use single use plastic bottles at work).

The supply of plastic bottled water made available to staff has been reduced and the option of having steel water bottles encouraged. Stay hydrated but be plastic free.